itself into the work of organising Kisan Sabhas. In the **U.P.** and in Behar particularly huge rallies of Kisans took place* In some parts the primary committees of the Congress were almost Kisan Sabhas themselves but the growth of the Sabhas as such is an event of great importance. The U.P. is an urbanised province with many large cities, and the Congress there is largely supported by the lower middle class, which is open to being radicalised. But Behar is purely rural. Patna, its capital, is no larger than a very minor town in the U.P. Consequently in Behar the Congress has contained large elements of the Zemindar class, there being little or no middle class. This explains the growth of Kisan Sabhas as distinct from Congress Committees.

There can be no doubt that the fatalistic and down-trodden peasant is a being of the past. The cultivator is feeling his strength and learning lessons of solidarity. But there has been a tendency to force the pace. The Congress Ministries brought with them a new atmosphere of civil liberty, but side by side with the genuine Socialists and Communists there were interested folk, people only anxious to exploit the Kisan for their own ends. It was a temptation to embarrass the new ministries. The Kisans were told not to pay their rents and the Ministers had to warn them that, till the laws were altered, this would involve ejection, profiting the landlords rather than the tenants. Some began to speak of expropriation; a fearsome idea for the middle class. The Zemindars of Behar took fright and actually threatened to offer *satya-grahal*

It must be remembered that the Congress is a block of nationalist concentration to» win independence, and can hardly be expected to enact purely Socialist measures or to liquidate the Zemindars. They had never been committed to this. The Kisan leaders were struck by the rapid acceleration in the tempo of the Kisan movement and were inclined to